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PHILIP MORRIS MANAGEMENT CORP
LAW DEPT. PATENT SECTION

JUN 30 1992

24th June 1992

JHB/HM/29136

NOTED CH/E

COPY

Dear Ronald

PM 1267 EPO
Our File: 29136

Thank you for your letter of 8th June 1992 following which I have prepared and filed a response.

The very strict amendment practice in the EPO does limit to some extent what we can do but I believe the claims I have presented are fully justified by the original disclosure. I have made minor changes here and there, notably by deleting expressions which have no conceivable counterpart in the original specification or claims. In argument I have tried to distinguish between disclosures which geniunely relate only to particular embodiments, which is what the Examiner is concerning himself about, and disclosures which are clearly implicit throughout the specification and apply to all versions of the invention, even though an explicit description of them may only occur in portions of the text ostensibly relating to one or other of the embodiments.

Thank you for your assistance in pointing out passages of text that are useful in this connection. I have made use of your suggestions but to some extent have broken them down so as to link particular short passages with particular expressions in the claims.

The careful study I have needed to give the claims and the specification for the amendment have also been of assistance in dealing with the somewhat related action on the Finnish application.

Yours sincerely

J.H.Bass

cc. James E.Schardt Esq ✓

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